

SECRETOBS-452/65
28 January 1965

MEMORANDUM TO: Assistant for Plans and Development

ATTENTION : Chief, Development Branch

FROM : Chief, PID, CIA

SUBJECT : Request for Development of Equipment

1. The Photographic Intelligence Division has long felt a need for quick working copies of intermediate quality of film materials for use as temporary reference materials, for special lab orders where precise instructions must be conveyed and for other purposes where the standard procedure involving requesting duplicate materials through regular channels is impractical. Several pieces of equipment have been evaluated and tested against this problem and have succeeded in solving various parts of the overall problem. The Polaroid MP-3 copy camera has been used successfully for those instances where copies of large areas are required or where Teleprompter slide materials are desired on a real-time basis. The newly acquired [redacted] enlargers are solving another portion of this problem wherein high quality enlargements at magnifications above 15 diameters are required. In between these two instruments, however, there has remained a gap which no equipment currently on the market appears to fill. It is to this problem of providing readily available medium quality print or positive transparency materials of about 3 diameters enlargement that this paper is directed. 25X1

2. During April of 1964, [redacted] of the Operations Support Staff, PID, worked closely with [redacted] in specifying the design modifications to the Photomicrographic Enlargers which resulted in the present configuration of these devices. At this time, he described to [redacted] the problem outlined above and asked if as a result of [redacted] experience on the enlarger they felt it would be feasible to design an instrument to meet the following conditions: 25X1
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- a. The instrument must be easily portable, small and light in weight.
- b. The fixed-focus enlargement factor should be about 3x, thus giving an object size of approximately 1 by 1 1/4 inches when used with Polaroid film.
- c. The camera back should accept all standard Polaroid roll films.
- d. An automatic exposure device should be incorporated that would be coupled with the proper film speed rating of the film employed.
- e. A capability should be included to allow imaging of pre-selected security classifications on the Polaroid material.

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GROUP 1 Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

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[] indicated that he would study the problem and make recommendations at a later date. He felt that there were no great obstacles to designing a system as described above but preferred to talk over several points with design engineers.

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3. In October of 1964 [] demonstrated in the building a device which was remarkably similar in concept to the camera discussed with []. A prototype of this was shown and a working evaluation promised for the future, when the camera would be available to NPIC personnel for several days to evaluate with real materials.

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4. In January 1965, [] received the attached letter from [] with a detailed description of the camera which had been discussed with them previously and a cost quote for a prototype. Since this reflects an entirely independent look at the problem than that embodied in the [] instrument and since various refinements are incorporated in this camera to meet operational needs of PID, it requested that P&DS take action to procure a prototype camera from [] which can then be evaluated along with the [] model to determine the type which is most suitable.

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5. We appreciate the continuing efforts of the Plans & Development Staff to effect the development of advanced P.I. tools and thank you, in advance, for your cooperation in this instance. Should there be any questions regarding this request, please contact []

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Attachment:

Letter from []

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